

## February 2023

# Celebrate Black History! February 1- March 1, 2023

# Office of Federal Emergency Relief Programs (OFERP)

Notes to the field

**Friendly Reminder - 20% Reservation:** SAUs must reserve at least 20% of ARP to address learning loss through implementation of evidence based interventions. We all will take care to be sure this threshold is met, especially for approved ARP plans that just meet the threshold.

New - As of February 2, 2023 for ARP invoices: We have implemented a measure applicable only for ARP invoices to prevent over-drawing any project budget. Going forward, it will be allowable for an ARP invoice to over-expend in a project budget category by no more than 10% of that project budget

As a reminder, submitted expenses for both CRRSA and ARP cannot be approved for a budget category that does not have an associated budget in the approved application

# **Coming Soon - FY'22 Performance Reports**

Look for notices and training opportunities/Office Hours regarding the Year 3 ESSER Performance Reports for activities from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Preliminary information about the Performance Reports were discussed at the February 2, 2023 Office Hour: Slides from the Office Hour (PDF), and video recording (YouTube video.)

OFERP Office Hours are held on the first Thursday of the month during the school year at 9am via Zoom. Register to attend <u>here</u>.



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School Construction Projects: The OFERP team will be initiating meetings in upcoming weeks for conversations with SAUs that are using ESSER funds for approved school construction projects. Our OFERP team will inquire about the status and progress of the construction project and will confirm that the SAU is following state and federal guidance for construction, especially the Davis-Bacon requirement for paying prevailing wages. If your SAU has a school construction project funded with ESSER funds, be sure to read the Frequently Asked Questions document updated on December 7, 2022 regarding allowable uses of ESSER particularly Item B-6 on school construction (p. 28), which has been expanded.

Davis-Bacon Act - Federally funded construction, renovation, and repair project contracts over \$2000 must follow the requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act. HVAC installation is included under Davis-Bacon and the requirements must be followed even if federal funds support only part of the project. The U.S. Dept. of Labor administers the requirements and has information. Briefly, SAUs must include language regarding prevailing wages in contracts, check that a Davis-Bacon poster is posted on the work site, monitor wages paid to labor hired by contractors and subcontractors, make sure anyone receiving apprenticeship wages on site are enrolled in a qualified apprenticeship program.

"The pursuit of knowing was freedom to me, the right to declare your own curiosities and follow them though all manner of books."

Ta-Nehisi Coates,

Between the World and Me

### **OFERP Winter Fun!**

Deedee (Deanna) - Hot tub!

Karen - Snowshoeing or winter rowing

Kevin - At the rink

Maisha - Going sliding

Monique - Watching hockey

**Shelly** - Skiing or visiting family in Florida

Terri - Crafts!

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